

2-2012

Cedars, February 2012

Cedarville University

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Recommended Citation

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CEDARS

The Student News Publication of Cedarville University

February 2012

For the Glory
th Honor of



David Ledbetter
Baseball pitcher

Leyna Hebert
Athletic trainer

Rehab Warriors

Trainers get
Athletes Back in
the Game

TABLE OF CONTENTS

February, 2012

Vol. 64, No. 7

Page 3

February Calendar

Page 4

New Townhouses Planned

Page 5

SGA Connects

Chucks to be Renovated

Page 6

Celebrating Black History Month

Page 7

Unusual Job Interviews

Page 8

New Website for Dayton Internships

Page 10

The Campaign Against Hazing

Page 11

The College Democrats Return

Page 12

Athletes Recover from Injuries

Page 15

Oscars Preview

Page 16

Movie and book reviews

Page 17

Guy Fawkes/Memes

Page 18

Persecution in the Middle East

Page 19

Chapel Speakers' Messages Trump Delivery

Back Page

Heartsong Live photos

Cover Photo

By Stephen Port (Baseball player David Ledbetter and assistant athletic trainer Leyna Hebert)

CEDARS

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Just Sayin' ...

My Internship Disaster

The first day of an internship is like a glimpse into what you want to do for the rest of your life. It's empowering, exciting and it makes you feel like a professional out in the real career world. I've heard that, but of course the first day of my internship at the Springfield News-Sun was quite different.

It started out exciting. My coworker and the photographer invited me to go to the scene of a fire with them. I thought, "I'll see flames and get to talk to people who escaped the house and maybe even see a fireman saving someone." Nope. The fire was out by the time we go there, it was raining, and I had to walk through the muddy cornfield in my heels to see anything. I thought maybe we missed some big action, like an entire portion of the house burning down. Wrong again. Some lady just accidentally lit her bed on fire.

Then, on the way back, my coworker in the back seat got carsick, and we had to pull over so he could throw up. And anyone who knows me knows that I'm a sympathetic puker. If I hear it, see it, smell it, I'm losing my lunch too. So I turned my face away and hummed super loudly to drown out the heaving noises. Luckily, I didn't join him in his anti-digestion activities, but I still felt sick the rest of the night.

As soon as we got back to the newsroom, another of my coworkers told me someone just realized I'd left my lights on the entire time I'd been there — four hours. So the photographer and I ran out to my car, and luckily it started. "Well, if you get stranded or get in an accident or something, I'll just come take pictures," the



Bekah Cvetich

photographer said with a laugh. I laughed too ... and then I actually got in an accident, probably within 300 feet of the building.

It was practically monsooning outside, it was dark, I'd never driven downtown before and I thought I was in a turn lane. I definitely wasn't. I turned, and the lady to my left did not. Bam: \$393.34 in damages. Tire rods bent, alignment screwed up and a dent in the door so it doesn't close all the way.

It was my first accident. I had no idea what to do, and I was in hysterics. Some random old guy showed up, hugged me and told me to go to my grave swearing that I was in the turn lane. Then he left. So, as I bawled maniacally, I told the cop I didn't remember which lane I was in. He asked if I was drunk.

When I told him I wasn't and that I was just the worst driver known to man, he gave me a \$125 ticket for an incorrect turn.

Then I tried to start my car to go back to school, and the consequences of leaving the lights on kicked in: the battery was dead. So I awkwardly waited in the back of the cop's car while I called people to come pick me up, but thankfully, a woman came by and jump started my car.

I drove home soaked and terrified with mascara running down my face and white knuckles because the bent tire rods were making my car jerk right and left at random times.

Once I returned to Cedarville, I got an e-mail from my boss saying they had heard my name on the police scanners in the newsroom and wondered if I'd gotten arrested or something. A great first impression.

I also realized I left my favorite newsprint umbrella in the back of the police car. I'm wondering if that's a sign to not become a journalist. Or to just stop hitting people with my car.

Watch for a new issue of Cedars every month.

Newsstands are located on the upper and lower levels of the SSC.

Contact us at
cedars@cedarville.edu



For more news, go to
ReadCedars.com

March 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28 General Recital	29	1 GOP Debate Watching Party Bach's Lunch	2 Traditional Irish Music Session	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Spring Break						
11	12	13 Encounter	14	15	16 CU Friday Open Dorms	17 Brass & Ivory Hymn Sing St. Patrick's Night on the Town
18	19	20	21	22 Critical Concern Series	23 Masterworks Concert: Mozart's Requiem	24 Battle of the Bands IJM 10K Race
25	26 Bach's Lunch	27 General Recital	28 Youth Pastor Round Table	29 Professional- ism/Etiquette Workshop	30 The Celebration	31



The Star Spangled Girl
DeVries Theatre
March 29–31
April 13–15



FOREIGN FILM SERIES:
"Nanking"
March 15

**Cedar
Mania**
March 17

**ALT
Night**
March 23

**Soup for
the Soul**
March 26

Rules for Townhouses Being Worked Out

by Drew Englund

The new Cedarville townhouse complex set to debut in Fall 2013 may have “off-campus” type rules, according to Dean of Student Life Kirsten Gibbs.

Gibbs said many details about these townhouses are still being worked out and may change, but many possibilities are up in the air. She said it looks like there won’t be any RAs assigned to the complex, but there could possibly be an RD of sorts — a “point-person” in case of emergencies.

Students living within this complex would most likely not have curfew or be required to purchase a meal plan, Gibbs said. Guidelines on people of the opposite sex being allowed

in the units are still being worked out, she explained, but there will probably be times when members of the opposite sex will not be allowed to visit.

Cedarville plans to erect one townhouse for fall 2013 and build more for the following year on an “as needed” basis, depending on enrollment, Gibbs said. Each townhouse complex will consist of eight units, and each unit will hold six individuals.

Gibbs said living in the townhouses will cost more than living in the regular residence halls. However, she said the townhouse apartments will be completely furnished and maintained by the university, which makes things easier for students as long as they don’t mind paying for it.

To live in one of these complexes, Gibbs

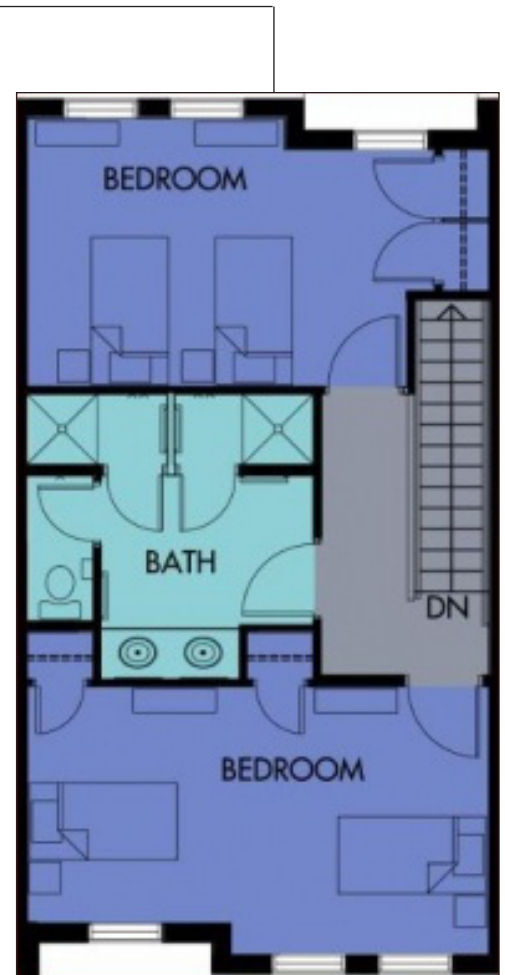
said students will go through the normal on-line housing process. Seniors will get first priority, Gibbs said, but if spaces are available, any student may select the open apartment and fill it.

The decision to build townhouse complexes instead of another dorm, Gibbs said, is to accommodate the needs and desires of the student body. In a survey about student housing, students indicated they wanted housing that provided furnished apartments, an academic school year lease and wireless internet. All would be provided in the new townhouses.

“Because it is owned [and] maintained by the university, students can be assured of a level of quality and security that this housing would provide,” Gibbs said.

“Because it is owned [and] maintained by the university, students can be assured of a level of quality and security that this housing would provide.”

Kirsten Gibbs
Dean of Students



Trustees Approve Summer Renovation for Chuck's



Photo by Stephen Port

Many of the renovations to Chuck's this summer will help clear up the congestion around the food lines, Food Services Supervisor Chuck McKinney said.

by Jenni Hodges

Cedarville University trustees have approved a plan to renovate Chuck's this summer. Work will begin immediately after the spring semester ends, and Food Services Supervisor Chuck McKinney said he expects the project to be completed by July.

McKinney also said the university will not be converting the Hive to a Chick-Fil-A.

Plans for renovating Chuck's were proposed last year, but other projects, like retrofitting "The Hill" and building the new Health Sciences Center, took priority.

"We didn't feel we could give adequate attention to the cafeteria," McKinney said. "So we made do for one more year, but now it's time."

Many of the upcoming changes are designed to make Chuck's less congested. McKinney said the staircase to the mezzanine, known to students as Up-Chuck's, will be "widened so that it's not like a cattle gate."

The mezzanine will also have new seating options, including taller tables and booths. McKinney said he expects the changes to make the area more open.

"A lot of visitors come in and have a meal in the cafeteria and never even know we have an upstairs," he said.

The changes to Chuck's are also intended to reduce the time students spend in line. McKinney said rearranging will make popular items more accessible and previously hidden areas easier to find.

Chuck's breakfast area, for example, will

be moving out from the back corner and closer to the entrance for students in a hurry. Other popular items like pizza, yogurt and soup will also be moved for greater convenience. A new addition to Chuck's will be a section where sandwiches are made to order.

The SGA Culinary Committee has also contributed ideas, advising McKinney as to students' needs and preferences. One suggestion was for Chuck's to offer more grill space.

"The self-cook area is probably one of the most popular things we do," McKinney said. "We're going to increase the size of the grill area there so the students have more access to be creative and do their own things."

"Plus, it's time to replace the nasty carpet," McKinney added, "and change the tile and the paint and make it look different."

Students responded enthusiastically on Jan. 30 when President Brown announced Chuck's would be renovated over the summer.

"I'm very excited about widening the stairs," said sophomore Jessi Dyson, "and anything that makes it easier to move in there."

McKinney said the university decided against bringing Chick-Fil-A to the Hive because research indicated the project would be costly and restrictive.

"As great as Chick-Fil-A's product is," McKinney said, "it's chicken, and chicken every day, and we do a lot of different things in the Hive."

Rumors about the idea have been circulating among Cedarville's student body. Sophomore Caleb Smith was disappointed to hear the restaurant will not be coming to campus, but freshman Stacy Rader said she likes the Hive the way it is. Dyson said she appreciated the concern over cost after recently receiving an e-mail about the tuition increase.

"We thought we'd just leave that alone for right now," McKinney said, "and then look for something down the road that's different and new."

SGA Wants Students to Connect to Campus Life

by Madison Troyer

Cedarville's Student Government Association announced earlier this semester in chapel that they want to connect better with students. Chase Summerlin, president of SGA, said they want to implement a new program called SGA Connects.

"As a team we decided that SGA's job is to connect," Summerlin said. "By connect, we mean really highlight those aspects of campus life that make this university so great and make it such a great place to be."

One aspect of SGA Connects is the Connection Point — an email sent out every Friday after SGA chapel that highlights the announcements made during chapel. Vice President Emily Sweet said the goal of the Connection Point is to not just make an announcement but

to take it a step further and show how students can connect to the event or organization.

Another aspect Summerlin said SGA wants to focus on is using social media to connect with students. He said his goal is for SGA's Twitter and Facebook accounts to be used more often both by SGA and by students. Along with that, he said SGA also wants to focus on their website. They hope to have both the Connection Point information and event pictures on the site.

Cedarville students already have opinions on the new idea.

"At first I thought SGA was starting a dating service because they announced it right after TWIRP week and the speed dating in Chuck's," Derek Leichty said. "But I do like the idea of SGA Connects, and I found the email helpful."

Sara Savard said she noticed the email, but did not pay much attention to it.

"It does sound interesting, and I think it's cool that they are trying it," she said. However, Savard said that if she wants to know what is going on, she would be more likely to ask a friend or search the Cedarville website before asking SGA.

Summerlin and Sweet said the feedback they have received has been mostly positive.

"Our ultimate goal is to help student life become more efficient and more resourceful, and to hear we are accomplishing our goal makes me happy."

Summerlin said he hopes that SGA Connects will become embedded in the SGA culture.

"We want to be a one-stop shop for everything involving student life."

Black History: The Growth of Diversity at Cedarville

by Courtney Raymond

February is nationally recognized as Black History Month, and Cedarville is no exception when it comes to having a rather marred past in this respect. The university faced its share of discrimination, hate speech and prejudices throughout much of the Civil Rights Era. J. Murray Murdoch, senior professor of history, found himself right in the middle of the conflict at Cedarville.

"In the 50s and 60s, most of evangelical Christian fundamentalism believed that the black man was cursed by God," Murdoch said. "So 11 o'clock Sunday morning was, and in many respects is still today, the most segregated hour of the week because Christianity really did not embrace integration."

This claim, sadly, was just as true for Cedarville as it was for Christianity as a whole.

When Murdoch came to Cedarville in 1965, the school had an unwritten policy that required a black student and a white student to have the permission of all four parents to date. This policy was possible to implement because all students needed permission from the administration to date.

While no stipulation existed for a white student to enter into a relationship with another white non-believer, Murdoch said, interracial dating was highly discouraged — even though the Bible had nothing to say against it, as it did against being "unequally yoked" with nonbelievers.

When Murdoch voiced his concerns over this and other discriminatory policies, he said he was met with considerable opposition both from students and some faculty members. Once James T. Jeremiah — the president at the time — brought Murdoch into his office to discuss the discrimination within the college.

"He said, 'Brother, you're right. This is a problem in our churches,'" Murdoch recalled. "'But I'm not sure our constituency would support us if we had a more open policy.'"

This predominately white constituency Jeremiah was referring to, from which financial support was drawn, made welcoming black students into Cedarville difficult, Murdoch said.

"I remember on one particular occasion a black guy coming into my office in tears, and he said, 'I can't take it anymore.'"

The student said he had been walking past Williams Hall — at that time a male dorm — enduring the daily taunts from the residents. On that particular day, however, the student confronted the other men, asking them why they ridiculed him. They spat in his face.

"It wasn't a pretty picture in the early days here," Murdoch said.

While Murdoch faced hate mail of his own for his views on integration and interracial dating and marriage, he stressed that he always received support from the presidents (Jeremiah, Dixon and Brown) any time he became involved in a conflict. But despite the turbulence of the 60s, Murdoch said that things

began to gradually change.

"After King's assassination, for many years we had nothing to do with Martin Luther King Jr. Day," Murdoch said. "There was no mention of it in chapel. Then gradually things began to turn, and we began to have Martin Luther King Jr. represented in chapel and some of his accomplishments recognized."

Looking at Cedarville today, Murdoch

"I never really felt like anyone looked down upon me because of my color."

Charmaine Porter

Printy RD

said he believes the university is moving in the right direction as far as diversity goes.

"To me, the integration of our campus has to be intentional," he said. "But I will say this: our generation is much better than my generation was."

This generational difference does not go unnoticed. Charmaine Porter, RD of Printy Hall and 2010 Cedarville graduate, had much different experiences as a black student than those in the 60s.

"I never really felt like anyone looked down upon me because of my color," she said. "I probably had a different experience than some minority students ... but I never felt unwelcome or unwanted."

Despite Porter's overall positive experience, she did recall one time when the ghost of the past seemed to reappear.

"The biggest thing was the 2008 election when Barack Obama was chosen to be president," Porter said. "That was probably one of the darkest times at Cedarville."

Throughout the election season, Porter said she remembers often just wanting to get off campus. The comments about those who would vote for Obama — comments claiming that true Christians would never vote for him — shocked Porter. After he was elected, she remembered many students making remarks about his length in office, saying he would be assassinated quickly.

"They weren't saying it about [black students], but if that's what you think, how do you really feel about me?" Porter said. "I just remember being really sad. We claim to be a Christ-centered university, I attend school with these people and they claim to love Jesus with all that they are, but then to hear these things that they're saying — it was hard to hear, and it hurt."

Despite the fact that Obama's election had not been announced in chapel the next

day, Porter said she recalls feeling incredibly blessed when later that night, many faculty and students from across the political spectrum got together to celebrate the undeniable victory for blacks, who just 50 years ago faced insurmountable difficulties to simply go to the polls.

"I can attest that we're really trying to figure out ways to make the campus reflect the Kingdom of God," Porter said. "We're thinking about how we can make our current minority students feel welcome here, how to get more minority students here and how to make sure that we retain them. We are working to make sure that everyone feels comfortable here because we want them to know that they are important to us at Cedarville just like they are important to God."

Many of the ways the administration is working to minister to minority students comes through events like the Civil Rights Bus Tour and the Martin Luther King Jr. Dream Event. Senior Rachel Arthur cited these events as pivotal in keeping her at Cedarville for her entire college career.

"There are definitely programs on Cedarville's campus that have helped make my experience as a minority really great," Arthur said. She traveled on the Civil Rights Bus Tour her freshman year, and last year the MLK Dream Event was instituted. "Being in OneVoice also keeps me grounded and has definitely been one of the key factors in keeping me here all four years."

Despite these opportunities, Arthur said her Cedarville experience has been turbulent.

"There are those days where you're just like, 'It kind of sucks to be a minority on Cedarville's campus,'" she said. "There are definitely days that I feel inferior. I'm just as capable of doing anything as anybody else, but there are those days where you're sitting in the classroom, and you're the only black person in there — it's kind of hard to keep it together."

Arthur has remained at Cedarville despite its failings. She said she credits her support system — found in friends and administration — for this, among other things.

"Definitely God's grace kept me here," she said. "Eventually I got to a point where I just couldn't let other people push me out. I wanted to stick it out because ultimately I feel like it's made me stronger."

There is agreement that Cedarville is moving in the right direction to reach a true breaking down of walls separating ethnicities.

"I would urge the student body to support the efforts at diversity," Murdoch said. "We need to recognize that in Christ, we are one."

"We're a body of believers and we're supposed to be working alongside each other to figure out everything," Arthur said.

Arthur, Murdoch and Porter said we should move past tolerance and embrace one another's ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

"We don't want to just be tolerant," Porter said. "But to see somebody — to see their color, to see their background — and to celebrate these things."

Employers Rely on More Than Resumes

Cedarville student not offered internship because of questionnaire answers

by Hayley Johnson

Increasingly, hiring managers rely on questionnaires, surveys and videos to guide their decision on which candidate to hire, according to an article on Yahoo News. The majority of them feel that by using these forms, they are gaining a more complete look at what a candidate has to offer than what is provided by just looking at the resume.

Last summer, Josh Fleming, a sophomore electrical engineering student, found out how important a questionnaire can be in the interviewing process.

Fleming applied for a prominent internship position with Proctor & Gamble Co. to help him gain experience within the field. His application process started with a questionnaire. He thought this was a standard request but was surprised by the amount of information the company was hoping to gain.

"The questionnaire was very detailed and in-depth," Fleming said.

After he submitted his questionnaire, he had to participate in a lengthy phone interview. When the interview concluded, Fleming was told that he would hear back in a few weeks if he would be offered the position or not.

"I felt like I had nailed the interview and had a really good chance of getting the position," he said.

Several weeks later Josh received the call he had been waiting for. He was told that he did not get the internship.

"When I heard that news I was really shocked that I didn't get it," Fleming said. To use this as a learning experience, he asked why he was not offered the position.

"I was informed that I had filled out the questionnaire wrong by not providing enough information on my background and skills," Fleming said.

Fleming learned firsthand that questionnaires are important to employers.

"Questionnaires need to be taken seriously, and I would definitely recommend putting a lot of thought into how you answer questions," he said.

He suggests that one of the best things to do when filling out questionnaires is to not undervalue past experience but to recount that and bring it to the forefront.

The Yahoo News article highlighted a variety of reasons why managers are making this switch from using the resume only. Many of them put the most focus on learning what the personality of a candidate is and how they think.

Why Companies Are Using More Than the Resume

Questionnaires...

- Provide a more complete look at what a candidate has to offer
- Give a glimpse into the personality of the candidate
- Help companies determine if a candidate fits into the company socially
- Show how well or not well a candidate can write
- Allow the company to narrow down the list of candidates
- Show the company what candidates really care about the position

Sources: Yahoo News, Jeff Reep



"A resume doesn't provide much depth about a candidate," said Christina Cacioppo, an associate at a New York-based firm. "Surveys are a better way to determine if a potential employee is a good social fit for the company."

Jeff Reep, director of Cedarville's Career Services Department, agrees that questionnaires are a more effective way of getting an idea of what a potential candidate has to offer.

"Questionnaires allow hiring managers to receive more information about the candidate," Reep said. He also believes that managers use them to gain an idea of how well a candidate can communicate through writing.

John Fischer, the founder and owner of

StickerGiant.com, has made the decision over the past couple of years to rely almost exclusively on questionnaires, the Yahoo News article said. Those who apply to his company have the option of attaching a resume to their application, but it is not required.

"I started using online questionnaires after receiving too many resumes from candidates who had no qualifications or interest," Fischer said.

Reep said he believes that hiring managers are putting more focus on the questionnaire because it allows them to weed out candidates who are only blasting resumes out to every option they come across.

"The questionnaire addresses specific things the company is looking for," Reep said. "This process brings only those candidates who are truly interested to the forefront and gives them a greater chance that they will be considered for the position."

Another firm, IGN Entertainment Inc., recently started hiring new employees in a unique manner. They did not request that candidates submit resumes but instead asked them to navigate through a series of online challenges, such as estimating how many pennies lined up side by side would span the Golden Gate Bridge, to test candidates' thought processes. Candidates were also required to submit a video that demonstrated their love of gaming.

The firm had 100 people who applied, and out of that number 30 were chosen to participate in a six-week program titled Code Foo, which taught the gamers programming skills. Out of these 30 people, six were eventually hired as full-time staff.

Because many of these gamers had little professional experience, they would not have been hired had they not participated in the program.

"If we had just looked at their resumes at the moment, we wouldn't have hired them," Greg Silva, a vice president at IGN, said in the Yahoo News article.

Through his experience with Proctor & Gamble Co., Fleming said he learned a variety of valuable lessons about the interviewing process. One lesson he learned is how Christians should approach sharing information about themselves. In future interviews, Fleming plans to draw more attention to the skills and experiences God has given him that qualify him for internship positions.

"As a Christian, you want to be humble since that is what the Bible calls us to be," Fleming said. "But you must also sell yourself."

"Questionnaires need to be taken seriously."

Josh Fleming, missed out on internship despite having what he thought was a good interview

Website Encourages Dayton Internships

DaytonINTERNS.net helps area employers provide, advertise internships with hopes of helping more college graduates find jobs in the Miami Valley

by Zack Anderson

A website to help Dayton-area employers provide more internships for college students has launched.

DaytonINTERNS.net was created by updayton, a Dayton young professional's group, to keep students in the Miami Valley after graduation by connecting them with employers through internships, updayton intern committee chair John Jones said.

Updayton hopes the website will reduce the Dayton area's "brain drain" – a term used to refer to college students leaving the area after graduation. Jones said an updayton survey found that students were more likely to stay in the area after graduation if they had interned in the area.

"We also know that there are jobs available in local businesses, but they aren't reaching students," Jones said. "DaytonINTERNS was created to bring these groups together."

Several Cedarville students who have gotten internships around Dayton said the experience influenced their opinion of the area. Social work major Sarah Wilson, an intern at the youth shelter Daybreak, said she feels more comfortable about going to inner city Dayton now.

"I was sort of freaking out about it, but now I just realize it's like any other neighborhood," Wilson said.

Though Wilson isn't planning to go into social work right after she graduates, she said if she was, she wouldn't mind staying at Daybreak.

"If they were to offer me a job or anything, or if it led to any jobs, then I mean I would be totally happy with that because I really love it," Wilson said.

Computer engineering major Collin Barrett took a year off of school from January 2010 to December 2010 to do a co-op at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Not only was Barrett able to extend the co-op to November 2011, but he was offered a job for after graduation by a different group at Wright-Patterson.

"Getting that was primarily through having a co-op," Barrett said.

While some students may be more likely to stay in the Dayton area after graduation if they have an internship, getting an internship can sometimes be a challenge. Jones said DaytonINTERNS seeks to fix this in several ways.

First, employers can use DaytonINTERNS to access the Miami Valley Post (MVP), a website for employers to post job and internship openings to area colleges' career services websites. Cedarville is one of those colleges.

"The career services departments that

make up MVP's network have a limited ability to outreach to businesses across the greater Dayton area," Jones said, "so the ability for DaytonINTERNS to help promote it will make it a more effective tool."

Second, DaytonINTERNS will provide information to employers on topics like how to offer internships and what to pay interns, according to an article in the Dayton Daily News.

**"We also know
that there are
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local businesses,
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reaching students.
DaytonINTERNS was
created to bring these
groups together."**

John Jones
updayton intern
committee chair

Psychology major Carolyn Case, who is looking for an internship for this summer, said her search would be easier if she knew what companies were even offering internships, whether paid or unpaid.

"You have to be willing to sacrifice your time because you probably won't get paid," Case said, referring to psychology internships. "But even just finding someone who would be willing to let you shadow them for an extended period of time, I'm finding is not easy."

Finding an internship has not been so hard for all Cedarville students. Mechanical engineering major Dan Santiso interned at Honda R&D in Raymond, Ohio, this summer. He found the position when looking for internships in automotive engineering, the field he is interested in.

Santiso said all he had to do was exchange a few emails with the company and do a face-to-face interview. Though Santiso found out he got the internship only a few weeks before it started, he said the process was pretty simple.

"I think it all depends on really how interested you are in the car field, and as well as if God wants you there," Santiso said, "because if God doesn't want you there, he won't open the door."

Jones said DaytonINTERNS was created to bring students and employers together, and though a 2011 survey by updayton said the gap between the two groups is widened because students don't think there are jobs in the area, not all students share this opinion.

Though Santiso said he doesn't know if he'll stay in the Miami Valley after he graduates, he is sure he could find a job around the area if he were to stay.

"If you really wanted to find a job close to Cedarville, you could find one," Santiso said. "There are definitely jobs, especially in the engineering field."

Exercise science major Amanda Harris, who is interning at Miami Valley Hospital this semester, thinks there are also a lot of jobs in the Dayton area in the health-care field.

"There's probably seven or eight hospitals that would be accepting applications like all the time," Harris said.

But theatre major Heather Barker wonders if the Dayton area has many job opportunities in her field. Barker, who is interning at Town Hall Theatre this semester, wants to work in children's theater after she graduates.

"I don't know if [my internship] will influence me to stay in the area or not because I don't know if there are many opportunities with children's theater around here," Barker said.

Right now DaytonINTERNS only offers services for employers, Jones said. Students cannot go on the website and find internships. They can find them on Cedarville's career services website after employees post them there through DaytonINTERNS.

But Jones, who is also the internship coordinator for the University of Dayton's political science department, said they hope to offer more for students in the future. He said they would like eventually to list internship job descriptions and provide interview tips for students.

Jeff Reep, Cedarville career services director, said he thinks internships are important. He said employers wonder how much students know about their field of study if all they have is a good resume and a glossy GPA without any practical experience.

During his co-op at Wright-Patterson, Barrett said he received a lot of practical experience.

"I learned a lot as far as what it means to be a professional engineer and things like that," Barrett said. "I wasn't just a coffee boy intern."

Recent Cedarville Internships in the Dayton Area

Sarah Wilson

Year: Junior
Major: Social Work
Where: Alma's Place, the boys' group home of the Daybreak youth shelter in Dayton
When: September 2011 – present
What: Wilson leads a weekly discussion group and is developing a rewards program to keep boys occupied in free time.
How: Wilson got a list of social work agencies from the social work department and then called them, asking if they wanted an intern.

Amanda Harris

Year: Senior
Major: Exercise Science
Where: Miami Valley Hospital
When: January 2012 – May 2012
What: Harris designs exercise programs for cardiac rehab and consults with patients after surgery.
How: Harris had to make a lot of phone calls to get this internship, though it helped that she had developed connections at Miami Valley Hospital through a practicum.

Matt Brooker

Year: Junior
Major: Computer Science
Where: Reynolds and Reynolds in Kettering
When: Summer 2011
What: Brooker coded web pages, working with a program that helps car dealerships price their vehicles more effectively.
How: Brooker found a different internship at Reynolds and Reynolds through Cedarville's career services, and when he interviewed for it, the company told him about this internship.

Collin Barrett

Year: Senior
Major: Computer Engineering
Where: Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
When: Full time: January 2010 – December 2010; part time: January 2011 – November 2011
What: Barrett worked as a contractor for Wright-Patterson through a company called Infoscitex. He worked with flight simulators and represented the company at conferences in Nevada, Florida and Ohio.
How: Infoscitex emailed Cedarville's career services looking for someone to do a co-op with the company. Barrett applied and got hired.

Dan Santiso

Year: Junior
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Where: Honda R&D in Raymond
When: Summer 2011
What: Santiso worked with the informational systems group, acting as an intermediary between design engineers and the computer programmers. His jobs were a mix between computer programming and mechanical engineering.
How: Santiso wanted an automotive engineering internship and found that Honda R&D offered one. He did all the research himself, applied and was hired.

Heather Barker

Year: Junior
Major: Theatre
Where: Town Hall Theatre in Centerville
When: February 2012 – May 2012
What: Barker helps in the box office, works in the scene shop and observes rehearsals.
How: Barker knew the artistic director of the theatre from when she was younger. She emailed him to see about an internship, and he said he would talk to her advisor about it.

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Cedarville Takes Strict Stance on Hazing

Schools across country raise awareness of hazing in light of Florida student's death

by Mary Miller

Cedarville University provides a unique environment for its students through the variety of activities available — student organizations, sports and musical groups. However, competition for position in such groups can sometimes lead to a negative atmosphere. Leaders in an organization may feel the need to exert dominance over followers, and older athletes might “rough up” freshmen to make sure they “know their place.” This type of behavior is commonly known as hazing, a subject of recent nationwide attention.

The Nov. 19 death of Florida A&M student Robert Champion Jr. has sparked a nationwide anti-hazing campaign. Champion, the 26-year-old drum major of FAMU's famed “Marching 100,” was found unconscious on a bus after a football game. He died shortly after of blunt force trauma from a beating that resulted from hazing traditional to the marching band. The entire marching band was suspended.

Champion's death has convicted legislators and administrators to address this problem. Across the country, high schools, colleges and universities are raising awareness about the dangerous traditions of hazing. Anti-hazing laws are being written or strengthened in Florida, Georgia and Massachusetts. Universities including Dartmouth, Cornell and the University of Pennsylvania are stepping up their anti-hazing regulations.

Hazing is typically a long-term activity that is entrenched in a school's culture. According to Cedarville Student Life, Cedarville has not had any official instances of hazing in the past decade. It is hard to say that with certainty, however, Dean of Students Kirsten Gibbs said.

“The tricky thing about hazing is that you only know about it when someone brings it to your attention,” Gibbs said.

Often, students who are involved in hazing will not come forward. Those on the giving end fear punishment while those who are on the receiving end are afraid of repercussions from other students, Gibbs said. The same can be said about pranking and bullying, less seri-

Hazing at Cedarville: A Quick Look

- In the past decade, Cedarville has not had any official instances of hazing.
- One, though not the only, reason Cedarville is a dry campus is because alcohol can be linked to hazing.
- The Cedarville student handbook definition of hazing is: “subjecting a student to abusive or humiliating pranks.”
- What is and is not considered hazing is determined by resident directors and Student Life deans.

ous incidents that are also against Cedarville's policies. Such instances occur annually.

Cedarville takes a tough stance toward hazing. The student handbook defines hazing as “subjecting a student to abusive or humiliating pranks.” It states that it “is often difficult to distinguish between hazing and an “innocent” prank among friends.”

Resident directors and Student Life deans determine what is hazing and what is not. Students that participate in hazing may be suspended or expelled.

The university's policy on alcohol is also related to hazing. The student handbook explains that alcohol consumption has a direct link to all forms of harassment, especially hazing. While there is a plethora of other reasons why Cedarville is a dry campus, hazing is still an important one to consider.

In addition to Cedarville and other universities, 44 states have laws against hazing, including Ohio. The state of Ohio defines hazing slightly differently than Cedarville does, focusing on the aspects of coercing a victim to perform “act(s) of initiation” into an organization that may cause harm to that person.

The law states, “Any person who is subjected to hazing may commence a civil action for injury or damages, including mental and physical pain and suffering that result from the hazing. An action may also be brought against any administrator, employee or faculty member of the school, university, college or other

educational institution.”

Frequently, hazing goes unnoticed and unreported because victims are afraid and unsure of whom to turn to. At Cedarville, students have a variety of options, Gibbs said.

The most obvious person students can report incidents to is their resident assistant. While an RA is the easiest and most accessible option, the nature of residence life often complicates dorm relationships. If students do not feel comfortable speaking to their RA, they can also speak to their dorm's resident director.

Additionally, students are encouraged to make use of the resources available to them; they may even come directly to Gibbs if they feel more at ease. Student life, counseling services, the Christian Ministries Division and Pastor Robert Rohm can all help students deal with hazing.

As a Christ-centered learning community, Cedarville hopes to continue to prevent incidents of hazing and deal with acts of bullying as they occur. It is just as important for Cedarville's testimony as it is for the safety of its students.

Gibbs said hazing violates Cedarville's community covenant regarding how to treat others.

“For us as Christ followers, there is a greater responsibility to come alongside those who are not being treated with kindness and gentleness and are being harassed in any sort of way.”

“The tricky thing about hazing is that you only know about it when someone brings it to your attention.”

Kirsten Gibbs
Dean of Students

Sophomore Plans to relaunch College Democrats

by Lucas Zellers

Cedarville may soon see a renewal of the student organization College Democrats. Jordan Ryner, a sophomore media communications major, said he is in the final stages of re-introducing the org and plans to launch before the end of the month.

"What I'm finding more and more is there is this impression in Cedarville that because I'm a Christian, because I'm a Cedarville student, I have to be a Republican," Ryner said. "And that's false. There's nowhere in the Bible that says, 'Thou shalt vote for Mitt Romney.'"

College Democrats as a student organization previously existed for about two years, but it dissolved in 2010. Susan Jones, a 2010 Cedarville graduate and the former vice president of College Democrats, said in an email that the org didn't make the transition to new leadership.

"We were on track to build momentum to carry us into the next year, but both of us experienced the death of a friend and that took

precedence," Jones said. "So we didn't organize elections, and since we both graduated that spring, College Democrats didn't return as a functional organization."

Jones said she faced persecution at Cedarville as a result of her involvement in College Democrats.

"We got our funding later than other student organizations and we were forced to justify our events to the administration," Jones said. "We got hate mail. My dorm room door was defaced with the word 'baby-killer,' and I lost track of the number of times I was informed that I was going to hell. Without College Democrats, Cedarville is politically homogeneous, and that is a state of affairs that should concern anyone who is in any way committed to the idea of the university as a place that encourages critical thought in its student body."

Ryner said he hopes the org will be an outlet for Democrats who have faced opposition in the past.

"I say I'm a Democrat, and a lot of people

get aggressive," Ryner said. "There's a lot of Democrats on campus who close up, and they don't want to become active because they're scared of what the rest of the student body thinks."

When he re-establishes the org, Ryner said he hopes it will be a resource for Democrats at Cedarville.

"I'd like the group to be an outlet for people who want to go into politics," Ryner said. "I would like them to have access to the political realm for future jobs."

Ryner said he also hopes to restore healthy competition to Cedarville's political environment through the org.

"We are Democrats and we are going to be advocating liberal ideas, but just because we have different political mentalities doesn't mean we have to be at war with one another," he said.

"It'll be a challenge because there are fewer liberals than conservatives on campus," Ryner said, "but it's not impossible. I think we can do it."

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Guy Fawkes Mask Takes on New Life

by Lucas Zellers

"This visage, no mere veneer of vanity, is a vestige of the vox populi, now vacant, vanished."
- Andy & Larry Wachowski, "V for Vendetta," 2006

When police in Washington D.C. evicted the Occupy protestors from McPherson Square in early February, they removed a mask from the statue of General James McPherson. The

ANALYSIS mask had the leering smile, thin mustache, and pointed beard that made it instantly recognizable as a Guy Fawkes mask.

The mask was unofficially adopted as the symbol of the Occupy protests when it appeared on the faces of protestors in New York City's Zucotti Park in October of last year. It was also spotted at Occupy protests in London, Paris and Hong Kong, where it defaced the bronze bull statue outside the stock exchange.

The mask was earlier used as a protest symbol by the Internet hacktivist group Anonymous, a loosely-organized enclave of hackers that originated on the infamous imageboard 4chan, which occasionally organizes cyber attacks as a form of social protest. Members of the group donned the mask during a public protest against the Church of Scientology in 2008, after the church tried to eliminate an embarrassing viral video of Tom Cruise. Anonymous has used the mask as its symbol ever since.

The mask was stylized into its current form by the 2006 film "V for Vendetta." It was worn by the protagonist of the film, a vigilante attempting to subvert a corrupt future totalitarian regime. The climactic scene of the film shows a crowd of people wearing the mask as a form of silent protest as the parliament building is destroyed in a triumphant fireworks display.

The film was drawn from a graphic novel of the same title first published in 1981 and written by David Lloyd and Alan Moore, the creative team responsible for such ideologically charged graphic novels as "Watchmen" and "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen." Moore and Lloyd's iteration of the character is a culmination of a century of penny novels and children's books that portrayed Fawkes as a dashing rogue in the vein of Zorro and Robin Hood.

Guy Fawkes himself was a 17th century Catholic anarchist who became a British folk symbol for the "gunpowder plot" – a failed attempt to assassinate King James I (who commissioned the King James Bible) by blowing up



theblaze.com

The Guy Fawkes mask has become a symbol of protest stylized into its current form in the 2006 film "V for Vendetta."

the Parliament building. He was caught in the basement of the building surrounded by kegs of gunpowder. He gave up his coconspirators under torture and killed himself before he could be hung. In contrast to the ideological heroism attributed him by the film, effigies of Fawkes are burned every Nov. 5 to commemorate his treason – effigies branded by a mask.

The long and checkered history of the mask should inform the way we approach it in modernity. Like the soaring eloquence of V's famous introductory monologue, the mask of Guy Fawkes is an easy way to make a bold statement. But the beguiling simplicity of

its assumption only makes it all the more dangerous. It's no longer just a mask – it's the sum total of all these ideologies, and to wear it is to invite complicity in them, regardless of which, if any, is expressed in the occasion. Journalists say that you are not liable for what you meant, but what was understood. In the Guy Fawkes mask as in any icon, we must be aware of the layers of meaning that are represented, and be careful how we use them.

Athletic Trainers Give Healing and Hope Through Rehabilitation



Photo by Stephen Port

Track and field team members Carolyn Cann (left) and Nicole Deneseus receive treatment in the Cedarville University athletic training room.

Training staff works to get athletes back in competition as soon as possible

by Stephen Port

When athletes fall victim to a serious injury, they often assume the worst: Their career is over, their second social lives are gone and all the athletic ability they had was torn out of them at the moment they heard the ominous “pop.” At the very least, they try to accept that their season is over.

The athletic trainers and student-athletes at Cedarville University, however, will say that it doesn’t have to be this way.

“Lots of athletes with injuries will come to us very discouraged and disheartened, so our goal is to show them they are still a part of the action and to help them recover,” said Leyna Hebert, Cedarville’s assistant athletic trainer.

And with the help of the athletic training department, athletes who have experienced serious knee injuries are making full recoveries weeks and months ahead of schedule and are learning important lessons along the way.

Chris Cross, Cedarville’s head athletic trainer, explained that bringing athletes back

from a serious injury and the subsequent surgery is about more than just making sure they are recovering physically.

“We try to stay on top of anything that’s happening with them holistically – not just with their injury but with them as a person as well,” Cross said. “We try to make sure they’re mentally where they need to be.”

Oftentimes, athletes are questioning their misfortune and wondering if they’ll ever step on the playing field again. This was the case with graduating senior Kelsey Watkins and junior Amanda Bunton, both of whom play for the women’s varsity soccer program and both of whom tore an ACL. Their knee injuries occurred mere weeks apart, back when Watkins was a sophomore and Bunton a freshman.

“I was going for the ball with another girl, and when we collided, I just felt this sharp pop in my knee,” Watkins said. “It was the worst pain I’ve ever experienced, by far.”

It was a similar story for Bunton, who said she remembers her knee giving out in an instant, and her hope of a speedy return leaving

just as quickly.

“I was angry at God, for sure,” she said. “As a freshman, I had big dreams of playing soccer in college, and then eight games later, I was no longer playing soccer in college.”

Because of his experience in the field of athletic training over many years, Cross said he understands where the athletes are coming from.

“With athletes, it’s been their identity – especially with college athletes. They were the best in pee-wee, the best in high school, and now they’re playing in college, so their whole identification is wrapped up in their sport.”

To combat the sense of desperation many injured athletes feel, Cross, Hebert and the rest of the athletic training staff take proactive steps to make sure the recovery process is as quick and professional as possible.

That process actually starts long before a player is even injured. Cross has his staff develop purposeful relationships with each team. They make sure to always be around during practices and team meetings, because they be-



Photo courtesy of Scott Huck, Cedarville University

Amanda Bunton suffered a torn ACL during her freshman season. Bunton, now a junior, said her rehabilitation taught her that her relationship with God must take precedence over soccer. But that didn't diminish her motivation to make it back on the field.

lieve presence builds trust. According to Cross, trust is key in athletic training, both for athletes and coaches.

Cross and Hebert have found that athletes are much more willing to talk when they know that their best interest is in mind, and that only happens when the athletic trainers make the effort.

"If the athlete doesn't trust you, then the rehab isn't going to go well," Cross said. "You're going to instruct the athlete to do 20 sets of this or that exercise, and they're going to think, 'This is a stupid little exercise that's not going to do anything for me.'"

Once the athletic trainer builds the foundation of trust, the trainer is able to move forward with rehabilitation at a much faster pace, and the athlete can make a faster recovery, often shaving months off the estimated recovery time.

Sophomore David Ledbetter, a starting pitcher and 2011 Midwest Region Pitcher of the Year, experienced such a recovery after he tore an ACL when he was hit by a car while riding his longboard. Ledbetter credits hard work and the guiding hand of Hebert for his surprisingly fast comeback.

Hebert was quick to point out that she's no miracle worker.

"David was hard-working and driven, and he pushed himself," Hebert said.

She stayed goal-oriented with Ledbetter, she said, and whenever he met a goal, they pushed on. Ledbetter was running at seven weeks and pitching off the mound in a game only 12 weeks after surgery.

"Leyna kind of took me under her wing, and I just kept constantly asking, 'What do I need to do to come back as fast as possible?'" said Ledbetter, "And we just made it happen."

Watkins also appreciated the aggressive approach the trainers took because it enabled her to get back out on the field.

"I know athletic trainers at other facilities would have taken it much slower, and I wanted to get back to competing, so I was running in four months when that recovery process usually takes six months to a year," she said.

Watkins, Bunton and Ledbetter learned to harness their on-the-field drive to make faster off-the-field recoveries, and they also gained spiritual insight through the experience.

"I'm the kind of guy who finds it hard to be patient, so God really does a lot of work teaching you patience through an ordeal like mine," Ledbetter said.

All three athletes acknowledged that their injuries enabled them to learn patience and more about themselves as Christians.

Bunton said one of the biggest takeaways from her injury and subsequent recovery was that soccer really can't be the main driver in a person's life – a relationship with God has to take precedence.

Although it was difficult to accept at first, Watkins said she saw that God was using the experience to show her something greater than the spotlight.

"I realized that my relationships with my teammates were much more important," she said. "No one remembers you being the leading scorer from two years ago. You remember the relationships you had and the fun times you experienced."

Ledbetter, too, realized that his injury was a blessing in disguise. He found that not playing enabled him to learn more about the game and what he could improve just by watching others.

Hebert said she counts her work as a success when the athletes she treats and rehabilitates on a daily basis come to her and share what they're learning and going through.

"One of the best parts of an athletic trainer's job is being able to do a lot of mentoring and encouraging," Hebert explained.

Bunton said she knows why she was motivated to come back from her ACL injury.

"God gave me this passion, so why would I give up on it?"



Photo courtesy of CU sports information

Cedarville University pitcher David Ledbetter worked hard with trainer Leyna Hebert to return from an ACL injury ahead of schedule.



Photo by Stephen Port

Kelsey Watkins suffered an ACL tear during her sophomore season, and when she heard the pop in her knee it was the worst pain she had ever felt.

Oscars Present Challenge, Opportunity for Cedarville



by Lucas Zellers

He's officially called the Academy Award of Merit, but usually he's known by his more familiar name – Oscar. Though he's only 13-and-a-half-inches tall, the gold-plated statuette stands as the greatest honor the motion picture industry can bestow. But what does he stand for? What makes a film the one that “the Oscar goes to”?

The nomination and voting process is straightforward, if complex. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has more than 6,000 members, who are inducted by invitation of its Board of Governors based on achievement in the film industry. Usually, they are members of the Screen Actors Guild, Writers Guild, or the Directors Guild.

These members nominate five films in order of preference for best of the year in 25 categories including Best Picture, Best Director and Best Foreign Film. To qualify, films must be feature length and must have been released for a run of at least seven days within the award year. Once those paper ballots are tabulated and official nominees are selected, members of the Academy are invited to attend certain screenings to vote for who should receive the award. The criteria used for these votes, however, are more difficult to define.

Based on consistent observation of Oscar winners, Jim Kragel, professor of digital film, television and video production at Cedarville, has thoughts on what drives the voting.

Kragel said that films released later in the year tend to do better than ones with spring release dates.

“It just seems like people have such a short memory for films,” Kragel said. The Academy also tends to avoid big-budget films like “Transformers” and “Ghost Protocol.”

“They call them ‘tent poles’ because the money that they make off of that movie supports all the other movies that they want to make, so it holds up the tent for the rest of the company,” Kragel said.

Yet the most important factor Kragel has observed is the philosophy of the film.

“Those films that just scream out, ‘I just want to live my life, I want to make my choices and I don’t want to be judged for my choices’ – those films always do well,” Kragel said.

So should a Christian engage the Oscars as an event?

“Is it fun to watch? Yeah,” Kragel said. “But does it really help me as a disciple of Christ? Not in any tangible way that I can think of.”

Jon Purple, Dean of Student Life Programs and director of Cedarville’s “Films that Matter” series, had a different opinion.

“[Watching the Oscars] doesn’t mean that we worship at the altar of the music industry or the motion picture industry, but they’re impacting our world, and I think we ought to engage our culture, not withdraw from it,” Purple said.

“I think sometimes art should cause us to stop and think and ponder,” he continued. “Sometimes that makes us a little nervous. Sometimes maybe that’s good.”

This year’s contenders for Best Picture include “The Artist,” a (mostly) silent film about the end of a silent film star; “The Tree of Life,” an impressionistic parable about a child’s loss of innocence in the 1950s; and “Hugo,” an animated film about an orphan and an automaton hiding in a Paris train station.

Roger Gelwicks, a sophomore technical and professional communication major, compared following the Oscars to following March Madness but said that it was significant for the Christian.

“I think it’s important for Christians to know what excellence in film is,” Gelwicks said. He looks for films “that are well-made, that have a thoughtful message to convey, that really strive to do something different in the field that hasn’t been done,” but recognizes that “a lot of times I’m predicting films to win that I would never want to watch.”

In all, however, Gelwicks said the Oscars are a good indicator of what movies are worth watching.

“If you don’t have any problems with the [content of the] film, then by all means, broaden your horizons and get some great film into your culture,” Gelwicks suggested. “Christians need to be very cultured in the arts; it’s almost more of a relevance issue.”

Purple echoed this sentiment.

“Whether you watch it, at least be aware of what won. It might be a movie that you ought to see just because it won an Oscar and see what redemptive things there might be in that,” he said.

The Oscars will air live on Sunday at 7 p.m.

Movie Review: 'The Vow' Sheds Romantic Stereotype

by Becca Powlus

Just in time for Valentine's Day, the big-screen romance film "The Vow" hit theaters. Inspired by true events, "The Vow" tells the story of a young married couple, Leo and Paige (Channing Tatum and Rachel McAdams), whose lives are forever changed in the wake of a tragic accident. Paige suffers a serious head injury in a car crash that completely wipes out her memory of the past five years. She wakes up in the hospital and has no recollection of her husband, Leo. In her mind, Paige is still engaged to a man she left five years ago, and she can't seem to believe that she was ever married to this man claiming to be her husband.

As the movie progresses, Leo struggles to cope with the pain of having his wife, the love of his life, forget him and all the memories they've shared together. But this is the element of the story that makes "The Vow" so refreshing ... and heartbreaking. Leo promised Paige on the day they wed: "I vow to fiercely

love you in all your forms, now and forever. I promise to never forget that this is a once in a lifetime love. I vow to love you, and no matter what challenges might carry us apart, we will always find a way back to each other."

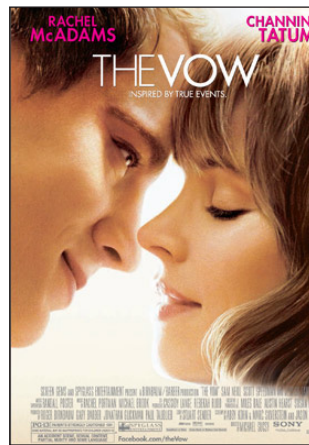
In the midst of a sex-saturated, self-gratifying, leave-when-the-going-gets-tough society, the dedication displayed in "The Vow" is a breath of fresh air. Leo loves his wife enough to stick it out with her even when she loses the memory of ever falling in love with him. "I need to make my wife fall in love with me again," Leo says. And that's what he sets out to do.

Movies with themes of such passion typically capitalize on throwing steamy sex scenes into the mix. Audiences have come to expect that. The fact that "The Vow" stays pretty far away from

that serves as another refreshing characteristic. While the film includes implied sex scenes, none are outright or blatant. And the couple

is married – another rarity in Hollywood love stories. The audience does see Channing Tatum's bare behind in one clip, but this adds a humorous element rather than a sensual or suggestive one.

Through the audience's tide of tears of joy, heartbreak and frustration, "The Vow" emerges as a powerful and spellbinding film about an infinite love. It is a satisfying counterpoint to the typical self-centered, emotion-based "love" so frequently portrayed in similar films and so often idolized in a culture of unfaithfulness. "The Vow" explains what love really is: not just an emotion, but an undying commitment.



Book Review: 'American Born Chinese'

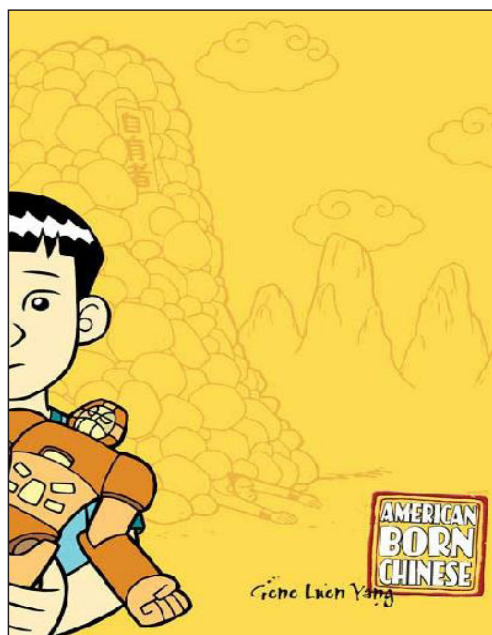
by Rose Havard

It is surprising how many literature-lovers continue to neglect or outright reject the graphic novel as a legitimate venue for imaginative, powerful storytelling. Ingenious, break-the-mold graphic novels like "The Eternal Smile," "Daisy Kutler," "Bone" and "The Arrival" are often overlooked and undervalued, pushed back into children's sections with the crowd of superhero comic books and pulp fiction.

This reputation is somewhat understandable, considering that American mainstream graphic literature is limited to the immensely popular D.C Comics, Marvel and newspaper comic strips. But many graphic novels stretch far beyond sensationalized images and trite jokes. It is a literary poverty to ignore them.

"American Born Chinese" is one such astoundingly clever and strikingly insightful graphic novel. The book's author, Gene Yang, wrote it primarily for a younger audience, but its humor and wisdom will endear it to older readers. It is a modern, pseudo-Christian fable of sorts. It mixes reality with mystical elements and is underscored with biblical figures. The novel makes for a quick and interesting read, consisting of three story lines masterfully woven together. "American Born Chinese" confronts the problems of conformity and challenges the assumption that man can transform into his own ideal self apart from God's will.

Alternating between stories, the book follows the childhood of Chinese-American Jin



Wang, a few days in the life of high school student Danny and the exploits of a legendary monkey king. Since his elementary days, Jin has struggled to be accepted by his peers because of his race, so he quickly comes to resent his heritage. Meanwhile Danny, a typical high school jock, is distressed by the behavior of his Chinese cousin Chin-kee, who comes to visit him once a year. Chin-kee is the symbolic embodiment of the ultimate negative Chinese stereotype, and his visits consequently ruin Danny's reputation. The legendary monkey king

also struggles to be accepted among the other deities of Chinese folklore and eventually tries to rid himself of monkey-ness. Yang brings it all to a truly surprising, deftly twisting conclusion, as he neatly ties together every loose end. A second read will unveil many shrewd hints the author drops before ending with a bang.

Yang's comic style prefers bold, solid colors inside thick lines reminiscent of calligraphic pen. The style is very modern and reflects both an "American" feel and a "Chinese" feel without leaning to either explicit label. The overall impression is down-to-earth, as Yang minces his language to find a sweetly wise voice in simplicity. Anybody can read the novel, but Yang's tone is mature, honest and credibly human in every respect. What is most impressive is Yang's ability to craft an immaculate plotline free of clichéd devices or strategies; it is practically pure originality. And Yang's humor snaps with tongue-in-cheek sharpness – it grows organically, naturally, and is never forced.

Though he plumbs the depths of the meaning of self, Yang does not dive into the annoying "be yourself" mantra that contemporary culture has overused. His perspective is refreshingly real and perceptively minimalist when he crosses into the spiritual realm. Insights prompt introspection; memories resurface as one feels transported back to childhood years.

Graphic novels can be as intellectually and emotionally stimulating as reading a piece of literature – just as startling and just as beautiful. "American Born Chinese" can be a wonderful introduction to the realm of graphic fiction.

What's in a Meme?

by Holly McClellan

It was only a matter of time – a fixture of pop culture has managed to permeate the Cedarville bubble. First it was jeans, then it was dancing, and now – it's memes.

Wait...what?

That's one of the two responses typical to the mention of memes. The other, likely, is enthusiastic approval, followed by consternation as to how to describe this phenomenon to the ignorant party.

That's because verbally explaining memes to anyone unfamiliar with them is roughly equivalent to explaining quantum mechanics to a cat. And don't even try going to Wikipedia for a snappy little definition. Usually an explanation amounts to heaving a sigh of exasperation, opening up a laptop (preferably a Mac), launching your browser (preferably anything but Internet Explorer), and browsing the endless stream of stock pictures overwritten with words that form a sort of electronic shorthand for those that use them.

Get it? Sigh. Just Google it.

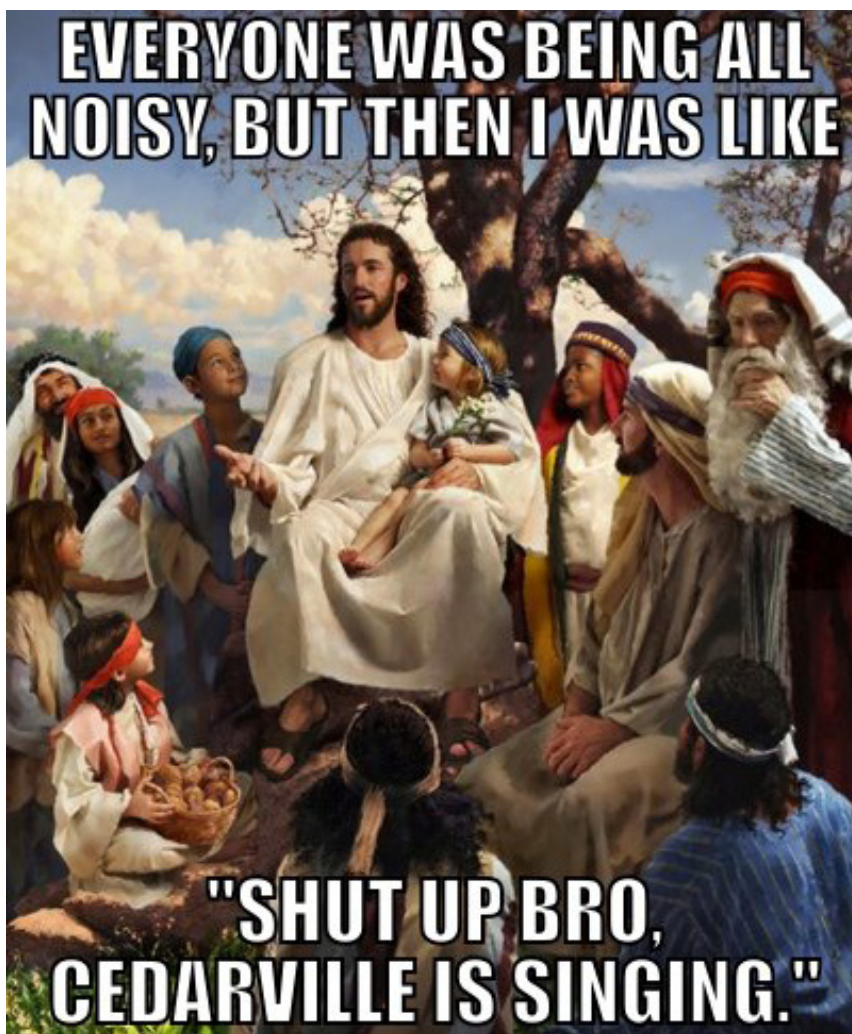
Or better yet, one could get on over to The Facebook and check out Cedarville memes, wherein the viral trend takes on all the familiar trappings of this university.

It's easy enough to see how memes transferred over to our agrarian utopia. At the heart of memes, it's all about feeling included: being able to look at a relatively simple assimilation of pictures, phrases and pop culture references and being able to smirk and say, "I see what ya did there."

That's even truer of Cedarville, where we're all equipped with the ability to understand certain references. We can all laugh knowingly about good-natured ribbings on Pastor Rohm, Dr. Brown, Chuck, walks around the lake, or standing ovations.

Of course, Cedarville memes run the same risk as their now dangerously mainstream older brother, Overheard at Cedarville: arguments. Flippant remarks about sex, denominations, or soul-lacking gingers tend to put the brakes on fun faster than taking an arrow to the knee (or the leg, if you're Pastor Rohm). Endless streams of back-biting comment wars bring out those nasty and divisive tactics that are hardly unique to Cedarville, but have unfortunately proliferated our culture straight to the common parlance of self-professed (and truly genuine) believers.

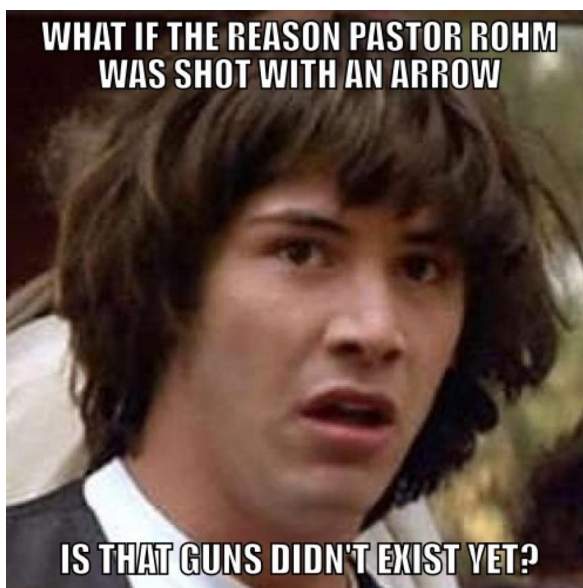
Of course, this is greatly expedited by the relative anonymity allowed by the Internet. Yes, each post is accompanied by a picture and a name, which may prompt a quick Facebook stalking (or Stalker-netting, if somebody's got some pesky privacy settings) – but let's face it. Even on a campus of our relatively small size, you can argue with relative strangers with little more consequence than receiving the stank eye across the Home Cooking line in Chuck's.



What's a meme?

This Internet phenomenon is an example of something that spreads within a culture. If you really want to know, then you'll have to read the story.

These memes are examples of those found on the Cedarville Memes Facebook page.



There's balance in there somewhere. Being a believer isn't about always agreeing with each other. But it's also not about making passive aggressive jabs just to prove who's ascended further beyond the Cedarville bubble – or,

on the other hand, who's better at appropriating Scripture with maddening condescension.

It all goes to show Christians' tendency to divide the kingdom over some admittedly silly things. And that's no laughing matter.

In reality, memes are but a flash in the pan. Sixty years from now, we'll all be puttering around nursing homes in our hover-wheelchairs, flapping our sugar-deteriorated gums to our great-grandchildren about Hipster Rohm and bracing ourselves for CU Fridays...and memes will be relegated to the scrap heap of pop culture along with lava lamps, 8-track tapes and (Lord willing) Crocs.

Somewhere along that line, Cedarville will have moved beyond memes to find the latest way to crack jokes and keep its quirky little community alive. But with that effort comes the risk of carrying along the divisiveness that is as old as sin. That certainly doesn't mean giving it up altogether, but it's a good enough reason to think before you meme.

Americans Need to be Aware of Persecution in Middle East

by Meredith Moline



It's time for United States citizens to confront the prospect of Christianity's destruction in the region of its birth. Fueled by the desire to be politically correct, one of the secular media's best-kept secrets today is the persecution of Christians in the Middle East. If the media exposes the persecution occurring, a crucial difference could be made to restrain the violence. Silence, however, could do the opposite.

Across the Middle East, Christians are faced with great oppression. In Syria, as Muslims have risen up against President Bashar Assad, Christians have been victims of rapes, murders and kidnappings. In Afghanistan, converting to Christianity is illegal and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan will not recognize Afghan citizens as Christians. Not a single public church remains in the country.

In Tunisia, foreign Christians have been called in by the police and many have had their phones tapped. Since June 2004, churches in Iraq have been bombed more than 80 times. Finally, in Libya, Christians face an uneasy future as Abdul Hakim Belhaj, who once led an Islamic militia with links to al-Qaeda, said he plans to run for office in the spring elections.

Native Christians in Egypt, called Copts, have faced oppression as well. Copts make up nearly 10 percent of the population and constitute the largest Christian community in the Middle East. Yet in Cairo, the largest city in the Arab world, only 50 Christian families remain. Though Cairo was once a city that contained a vast number of Christians, most of them have now fled to other countries.

In October, Copts organized a protest in Cairo because authorities failed to investigate attacks, including the bombing of a church in Alexandria that killed 20 people on New Year's Day in 2011. The military responded by running over 17 of these Christians with their military vehicles.

Christians are a minority, constituting only four percent of the Middle East and North Africa. Muslims constituted 91.2 percent of the population as of 2010, and the religion is expected to grow.

As a minority, believers are at the mercy of the majority Muslim population and leadership. Jordan is the rare exception, having a Muslim leader who accepts thousands of Iraqi refugees and allows Christians to practice their faith.

Egypt, however, is not as fortunate, as the

Muslim Brotherhood and radical Salafi candidates recently took nearly 70 percent of seats in the first free elections over the past two months. The implications of this new leadership can be summarized in the statement of a Copt, Mina Bouls.

"If people try to rule the country with the Koran, with sharia law, that means they look to us as second-class people," Bouls said.

Muslims argue that they do not force conversion to their religion, but the alternative is treatment as a second-class citizen.

Egyptian human rights activist Cynthia Farahat further supported this opinion, saying, "But for me, as a woman and a Copt, I am a fourth-class citizen. The first-class citizen is the Egyptian Sunni Muslim male, the second class is the Sunni female. The third is the Christian male. The fourth is the Christian fe-

Christian persecution in the Middle East has not been reported extensively in America, a country in which 78 percent of people claim to be Christian, according to a Gallup poll.

male. I'm a fourth-class Egyptian citizen with absolutely no legal rights."

Walid Phares, who was born in Lebanon and advises the U.S. Congress on issues related to terrorism, said Christians and other minorities have been the victims of violence for decades.

"I lived through it in the 20th century. Now we're all living it, trying to witness for it. We have crossed the threshold of a new century, and yet it's still happening," Phares said.

Christian persecution in the Middle East has not been reported extensively in America, a country in which 78 percent of people claim to be Christian, according to a Gallup poll. One reason could be a result of America's obsession with the Arab-Israeli conflict.

A more likely reason is that documenting attacks on Near Eastern minorities is not viewed as fashionable because it could be interpreted as anti-Arab and anti-Muslim. According to Franck Salameh, a Boston College assistant professor of Near Eastern studies, "There's clearly a prevailing hierarchy in the media's treatment of Middle Eastern violence.

More from this series online

What's With the UDI?

Palestinian Authority does not have basis for pursuing statehood based on current status.

Go to the Thoughts tab on readcedars.com

Some victims get airtime on prime time, all the time.

"Others simply don't. Middle Eastern Christians are not a top priority. Those uncouth, cross-wearing primitives are not cause for curiosity," Salameh said. "They are too Christian in a world plagued by political correctness, cultural relativism and a false conception of the Middle East as an Arab Muslim preserve."

Barack Obama has spoken on behalf of persecuted individuals such as Pastor Youcef Nadarkhani, who was sentenced to death in Iran for converting to Christianity and being involved in others' conversions. Obama has said that Christians in the Middle East must have the right to worship freely. However, stronger action is needed.

Dr. John Eibner, head of Christian Solidarity International CSI-USA, wants Obama to urge the United Nations secretary-general to create a policy for preserving religious pluralism and declare a genocide warning for Christians across the Middle East.

Representative Chris Smith of New Jersey, Republican chairman of the human rights subcommittee of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, wants Obama to designate Egypt "a country of particular concern," which would allow the State Department to impose sanctions and could make U.S. aid to the Egyptian army of \$1.3 billion be conditional based on fair treatment of minorities.

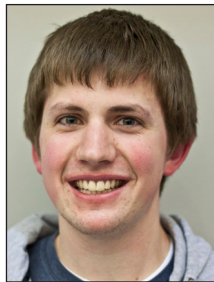
Lastly, secular American media must take responsibility for treating the persecution of Christians as important stories. Attempting to be politically correct and only reporting other "more exciting" stories is choosing to allow injustice and is creating a nation of ignorant citizens.

Americans need to know that they can make a difference right now through organizations such as Open Doors, which exists to support persecuted Christians and provide ways for Westerners to get involved through donations, prayer and volunteer opportunities. Changes can only occur if people make the choice to speak up for the innocent who cannot save themselves.

Meredith Moline is a Fellow for the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America

Chapel Messages Aren't All About Delivery

by Zack Anderson



"Let's give our speaker a big Cedarville welcome," Dr. Brown says as he introduces the chapel speaker for the day. The student body claps respectfully, and some may even give a few shout-outs, depending on the speaker.

If the speaker has good stage presence, this warm welcome will continue through his message, as students applaud, laugh and shout "Amen" at various points of the message. As Cedarville students, we love speakers with energy, funny jokes and exaggerated stage movements, and we love to show our approval of these things.

While it is not bad that students support speakers as they deliver their message, we need to think about the reasons we are supporting them. I know that I am guilty of appreciating chapel speakers solely because of the delivery they give, sometimes not even caring about the content of their message.

But this is wrong. We as a student body need to think critically about the reasons we are enthusiastic about chapel speakers. We need to think critically about the content of their message and not just the delivery.

And one of the reasons for this is that we have the ability to think critically. According to

the university's mission statement, Cedarville wants graduates to be able to "think broadly and deeply."

We go to chapel every day. If we are not thinking critically about what chapel speakers share with us, we are not critical thinkers. We simply cannot give ourselves this label if we don't think critically about something we put ourselves through for roughly 150 hours a year.

Cedarville also hopes its graduates can "communicate effectively." This involves listening to what other people communicate. The easy way out in chapel is to pay attention to only what is happening on the surface – the funny jokes, the huge arm movements or the jumping up and down.

But if we are to learn to listen well, we need to move past the way the message is delivered and think about the message itself. We need to ask ourselves "What is the speaker saying?" not "What is the speaker doing that can entertain me enough to keep me awake?"

When we listen well, we respect the speaker. Dr. Brown and Pastor Rohm always comment on how Cedarville students welcome guests by introducing themselves and asking them if they need any help. Students care about our guests.

Some chapel speakers are guests on Cedarville's campus, and we can care about these guests by caring about the message they share with us. No respectable speaker wants to speak to a 3,000-person audience and have that audience appreciate him only because he jumped

up and down on stage to make a point.

So when we think more about the content of a message than the presentation, we show respect for the speaker. We welcome them as a guest, and we make their time at Cedarville worthwhile and enjoyable.

By thinking more about the content of chapel and less about the presentation, we also make our experience at Cedarville more worthwhile. Whatever type of chapel we are attending – Student Life chapel, Bible Conference chapel, Missions Conference chapel – we are wasting our time if we just sit there and passively see what entertainment we can get from the speaker's delivery.

There is nothing wrong with chapel speakers delivering their message in an entertaining way. I'll be honest: I enjoy speakers a lot more if their delivery is good. But that doesn't mean I should.

We all know how much we pay to get our education at Cedarville, and we are wasting our time and money if we don't actively engage ourselves wherever we are, including chapel. Caring only about the delivery a chapel speaker gives and not the content he shares is a disservice to ourselves and to anyone who is helping us pay our college tuition.

I applaud students who pay attention to the message of every chapel and who value speakers for the content of their message rather than for its delivery. But for the rest of us, let's try to give each chapel speaker a big Cedarville welcome for more than just the way they deliver their message.

Interested in working for Cedars?

Interviews for next fall will begin after spring break

We are now accepting applications for the following positions:

Writers
Editors
Copy editors
Photographers

Page designers
Graphic artists for
print and online

Video news
reporters and
producers for
online

Email us at cedars@cedarville.edu for more information and to receive an application.



HEARTSONG LIVE



Heartsong led a live-recorded night of worship along with students and visitors for their upcoming CD. / Photos by Stephen Port

